

ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

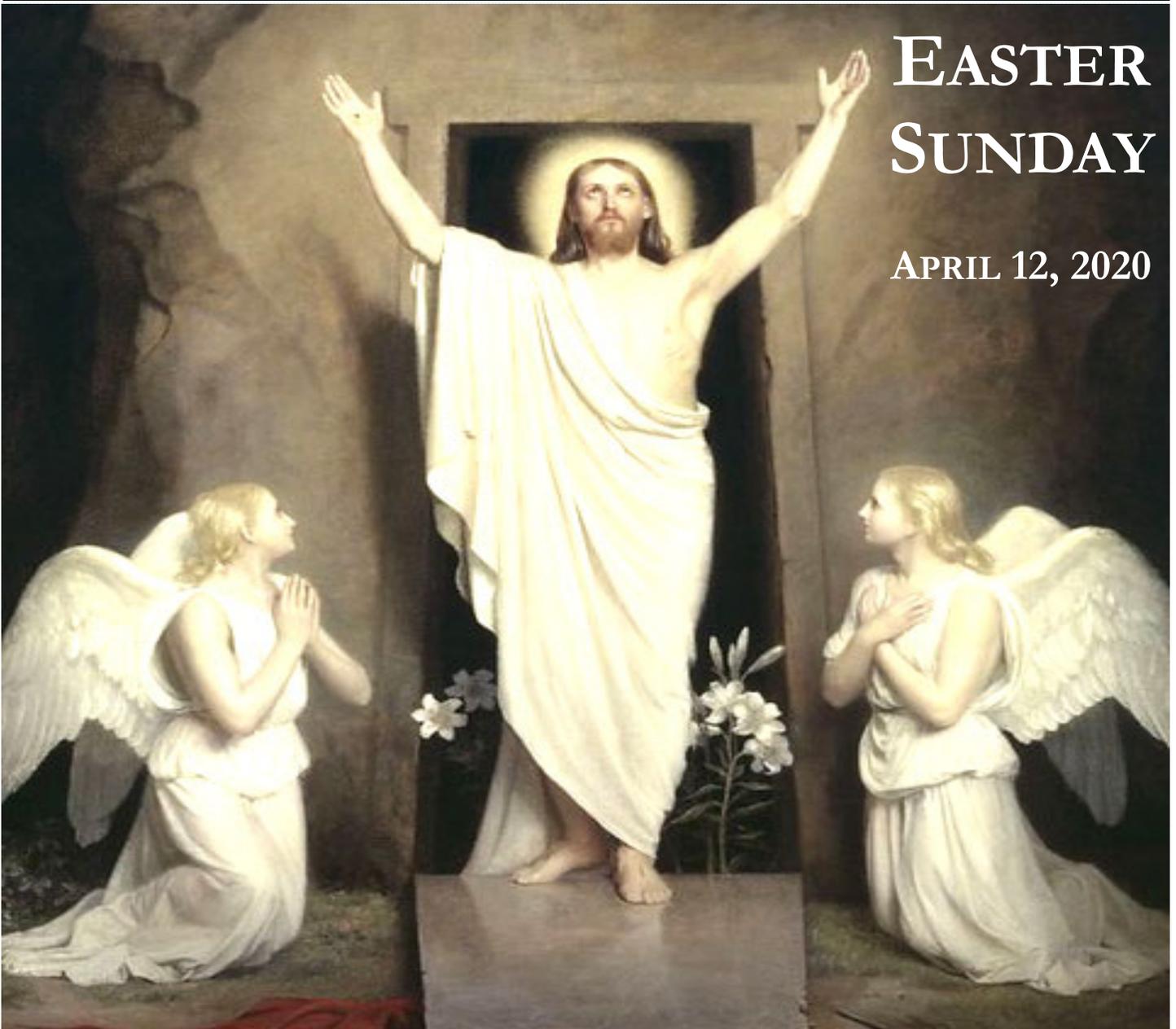
5370 KILN-DE LISLE ROAD ~ KILN, MS 39556

(228) 255-1800 ~ FAX (228) 255-1894

annunciationkiln@att.net ~ annunciationkiln.com

Rev. Sebastian J. Thekkedath, CMI

Deacon Tyrone Necaise



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 12, 2020

GOSPEL REFLECTION

HAPPY EASTER dear friends. May the Risen Christ bless and protect you all from this novel coronavirus.

Easter is one of the most important feasts in the catholic church because the Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Catholic Faith and this Resurrection is the guarantee of our own resurrection. It gives us hope and encouragement to continue our efforts to lead a Christian life based on the teachings of the Catholic Church.

“The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised.” (Mt17:22,23). Jesus foretold about his suffering, death and resurrection much before these happenings. Therefore, it is easy to believe Jesus as the expected Messiah. The empty tomb proves Jesus has risen from the dead because the terrified disciples would not attempt to steal the body of Christ when it was guarded by many soldiers.

The Old Testament speaks very clearly about the spirit and how it is going to work in us. “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn” (Isaiah 61:1-2). “I will put My Spirit within you and you will come to life, and I will place you on your own land. Then you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken and done it," declares the LORD” (Ezekiel 37:14). “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions” (Joel 2:28).

Coming to New Testament Jesus reiterates the spirit on his disciples. “Very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because people do not believe in me; ... I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you” (Jn 16:7-14). Jesus sent the Holy Spirit as he promised to his apostles (Acts 2). The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles as Jesus promised is another proof of Jesus’ resurrection and ascension. These terrified apostles who were empowered by the Holy Spirit then went all around the world preaching the Good News, healing the sick and baptizing them.

“For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God” (1 Cor 15:17). Stephen, the first martyr was stoned to death, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul (Acts 7:58). The conversion of Saul, a persecutor of Christians into a zealous apostle Paul is another proof of Jesus’ Resurrection.

The risen Christ encountered Saul, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? Who are you, Lord? Saul asked. I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting, he replied. Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do” Acts 9:4-6. Later Paul writes in his letter to Timothy “In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you (Timothy) this charge:” ... “For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing” 2 Timothy 4: 1-8.

The passage from John’s gospel 20:1-9 gives great excitement. John, the beloved disciple of Jesus was an eye-witness of the life of Jesus. John was the first apostle to reach the tomb of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. What John saw was an empty tomb which led him to believe in the resurrection of Jesus. When John saw the empty tomb, he must have recalled Jesus’s prophecy that he would rise after three days. Through the gift of faith John realized that no tomb on earth could contain the Lord and giver of life. Through the gift of Holy Spirit, the Lord gives us ‘eyes of faith’ to know him and the power of his resurrection. The greatest joy we can have is to encounter the living Christ and to know him personally as our Savior and Lord.

May the Risen Lord bless and protect you all during this Easter and coronavirus pandemic. I place each and every one of you on the altar of the Lord.

Fr. Sebastian Thekkedath, CMI

**Holy Week at Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral
with Bishop Louis F. Kihneman III**



Palm Sunday, April 5 at 11 a.m.
Christm Mass, Tuesday, April 7 at 10 a.m.
Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord’s Supper, April 9 at 6 p.m.
Good Friday, April 10, Stations of the Cross at 12 noon;
Veneration of the Cross at 3 p.m.
Holy Saturday Vigil, April 11 at 7 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 12 at 11 a.m.

Masses closed to public.
 Watch live on *YouTube*, *Facebook* and *Instagram@kihnemanbp*
 For more information, visit www.biloxidiocese.org

MASS INTENTIONS		
Saturday	11	Brenda Haas Krebs†
Sunday	12	Parishioners
Monday	13	John† & Nicole Necaise†
		Teddy† & Shirley Morel†
		Joel† & Peggy Cooley†
		and all deceased Necaise Family
Tuesday	14	
Wednesday	15	
Thursday	16	
Friday	17	